

FEC

1. Cloathed with feathers.
I saw young Harry with his beaver on,
His cuisses on his thighs, gallantly arm'd,
Rise from the ground like *feather'd* Mercury. *Shak. H. IV.*
So when the new-born phoenix first is seen,
Her *feather'd* subjects all adore their queen. *Dryden.*
Dark'ning the sky, they hover o'er, and shroud
The wanton failors with a *feather'd* cloud. *Prior.*
Then ships of uncouth form shall stem the tide,
And *feather'd* people crowd my wealthy side. *Pope.*
Vultures, harpies, ravens, cormorants, and, among many
other *feathered* creatures, several little winged boys perch upon
the middle arches. *Addison's Spectator, N^o. 159.*
2. Fitted with feathers; carrying feathers.
An eagle had the ill hap to be struck with an arrow, *feather'd*
from her own wing. *L'Estrange's Fables.*
Not the bow they bend, nor boast the skill
To give the *feather'd* arrow wings to kill. *Pope's Odyssey.*
FEATHEREDGE. *n. f.*
Boards or planks that have one edge thinner than another,
are called *featheredge* stuff. *Moxon's Mech. Exer.*
FEATHEREDGED. *adj.* [*feather* and *edge*.] Belonging to a
feather edge.
The cover must be made of *featheredged* boards, in the na-
ture of several doors with hinges fixed thereon. *Mortimer.*
FEATHERFEW. *n. f.* A plant both single and double: it is
increased by seeds or slips, and also by dividing the roots: it
flowereth most part of the Summer. *Mortimer's Husbandry.*
FEATHERLESS. *adj.* [from *feather*.] Without feathers.
This so high grown ivy was like that *featherless* bird, which
went about to beg plumes of other birds to cover his naked-
ness. *Howell's Vocal Forest.*
FEATHERSELLER. *n. f.* [*feather* and *seller*.] One who sells
feathers for beds.
FEATHERY. *adj.* [from *feather*.] Cloathed with feathers.
Or whistle from the lodge, or village cock
Count the night-watches to his *feathery* dames. *Milton.*
FEATLY. *adv.* [from *feat*.] Neatly; nimbly; dexterously.
Foot it *featly* here and there, *Shaksp. Tempest.*
And sweet sprites the burthen bear.
The moon was up, and shot a gleamy light;
He saw a quire of ladies in a round, *Dryden.*
That *featly* footing seem'd to skim the ground.
There haply by the ruddy damsel seen, *Tickell.*
Or shepherd-boy, they *featly* foot the green.
FEATNESS. *n. f.* [from *feat*.] Neatness; nicety; dexte-
rity.
FEATURE. *n. f.* [*sauture*, old French.]
1. The cast or make of the face.
Report the *feature* of Octavia, her years. *Shaksp.peare.*
2. Any lineament or single part of the face.
Though ye be the fairest of God's creatures,
Yet think that death shall spoil your goodly *features*. *Spenser.*
We may compare the face of a great man with the
character, and try if we can find out in his looks and *features*
the haughty, cruel, or unmerciful temper that discovers itself
in the history. *Addison on ancient Medals.*
Though various *features* did the fitters grace,
A fitter's likeness was in every face. *Addison's Ovid's Met.*
To FEATURE. *v. a.* To resemble in countenance; to favour.
He liv'd in court most prais'd, most lov'd,
A sample to the young; to th' more mature,
A glass that *featur'd* them. *Shaksp.peare's Cymbeline.*
To FEAZE. *v. a.* [See FAKED, perhaps from *pax*, Saxon,
hair.]
1. To untwist the end of a rope, and reduce it again to its first
flamina.
2. To beat; to whip with rods. *Ainsw.*
To FEBRICITATE. *v. n.* [*febricator*, Latin.] To be in a
fever. *Diët.*
FEBRICULOSE. *adj.* [*febriculosus*, Latin.] Troubled with a
fever. *Diët.*
FEBRIFUGE. *n. f.* [*febris* and *fuge*, Latin; *febrifuge*, Fr.]
Any medicine serviceable in a fever. *Quincy.*
Bitters, like cholera, are the best sanguifers, and also the
best *febrifuges*. *Player on the Humours.*
FEBRIFUGE. *adj.* Having the power to cure fevers.
Febrifuge draughts had a most surprising good effect. *Arbut.*
FEBRILE. *adj.* [*febrilis*, Latin; *febrile*, Fr.] Constituting a
fever; proceeding from a fever.
The spirits, embroiled with the malignity in the blood, and
turgid and tumified by the *febrile* fermentation, are by phlebo-
tomy relieved. *Harvey on Consumptions.*
FEBRUARY. *n. f.* [*februarius*, Latin.] The name of the
second month in the year.
You have such a *February* face,
So full of froit, of storm, and cloudiness? *Shaksp.peare.*
FECES. *n. f.* [*fecer*, Latin; *feces*, French.]
1. Dregs; lees; sediment; subsidence.
Hence the surface of the ground with mud
And slime belmeard, the *feces* of the flood,
Receiv'd the rays of heav'n; and sucking in
The seeds of heat, new creatures did begin. *Dryden.*

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2. Excrement.
The symptoms of such a constitution are a four smell in
their *feces*. *Arbutnot on Aliments.*
FECULENCY. *n. f.* [*faculentia*, Latin.]
FECULENCY. *n. f.* [*feculentia*, Latin.]
1. Muddiness; quality of abounding with lees or sediment.
2. Lees; feces; sediment; dregs.
Pour upon it some very strong lee, to facilitate the separa-
tion of its *feculencies*. *Boyle.*
Whether the wilding's fibres are contriv'd
To draw th' earth's purest spirit, and resist
Its *feculence*, which in more porous flocks
Of cyder plants finds passage free. *Phillips.*
FECULENT. *adj.* [*feculentus*, Lat. *feculent*, French.] Foul;
dreggy; excrementitious.
But both his hands, most filthy *feculent*,
Above the water were on high extent,
And fain'd to wash themselves incessantly,
Yet nothing cleaner were for such intent. *Fairy Queen.*
We may affirm them to be to the body as the light of a
candle to the gross and *feculent* snuff, which as it is not pent
up in it, so neither doth it partake of its stench and im-
purity. *Glauv. Apology.*
FECUND. *adj.* [*fecundus*, Latin; *second*, Fr.] Fruitful;
prolific.
The more sickly the years are, the less *fecund* or fruitful
children also they be. *Gravitt's Bills of Mortality.*
FECUNDATION. *n. f.* [*fecundo*, Latin.] The act of making
fruitful or prolific.
She requested these plants as a medicine of *fecundation*, or
to make her fruitful. *Brown's Vulgar Errors, b. vii. c. 7.*
To FECUNDIFY. *v. a.* To make fruitful; to make pro-
lific. *Diët.*
FECUNDITY. *n. f.* [from *fecund*; *fecundité*, French.]
1. Fruitfulness; quality of producing or bringing forth in great
abundance.
I appeal to the animal and vegetable productions of the
earth, the vast numbers whereof notoriously testify the ex-
treme luxuriance and *fecundity* of it. *Woodward's Nat. Hist.*
2. Power of producing or bringing forth.
Some of the ancients mention some seeds that retain their
fecundity forty years; and I have found, from a friend, that
melon-seeds, after thirty years, are best for raising of melons.
Ray on the Creation.
He could never create so ample a world, but he could have
made a bigger; the *fecundity* of his creative power never grow-
ing barren, nor being exhausted. *Bentley's Sermons.*
FED. Preterite and participle pass. of *To feed*.
For on the grassy verdure as he lay,
And breath'd the freshness of the early day,
Devouring dogs the helpless infant tore,
Fed on his trembling limbs, and lapp'd the gore. *Pope.*
FEDARY. *n. f.* [*fedus*, Latin, or from *feudum*.] This word,
peculiar to *Shaksp.peare*, may signify either a confederate; a
partner; or a dependant.
Damn'd paper!
Black as the ink that's on thee, senseless bauble!
Art thou a *fedary* for this act, and lookest
So virgin-like without? *Shaksp.peare's Cymbeline.*
FEDERAL. *adj.* [from *fedus*, Latin.] Relating to a league or
contract.
It is a *federal* rite betwixt God and us, as eating and drink-
ing, both among the Jews and Heathens, was wont to be.
Hammond's Fundamentals.
The Romans compelled them, contrary to all *federal* right
and justice, both to part with Sardinia, their lawful territory,
and also to pay them for the future a double tribute. *Greuv.*
FEDERARY. *n. f.* [from *fedus*, Latin.] A confederate; an
accomplice.
She's a traitor, and Camillo is
A *federary* with her. *Shaksp.peare.*
FEDERATE. *adj.* [*federatus*, Latin.] Leagued; joined in
confederacy.
FEE. *n. f.* [*feoh*, Saxon; *fee*, Danish, cattle; *feudum*, low
Latin; *feu*, Scottish.]
1. [In law.] All lands and tenements that are held by any ac-
knowledge of superiority to a higher lord. All lands and
tenements, wherein a man hath a perpetual estate to him and
his heirs, &c. are divided into *allodium* and *feudum*: *allodium*
is every man's own land, which he possesses merely in his own
right, without acknowledgment of any service, or payment
of any rent to any other. *Feudum*, or fee, is that which we
hold by the benefit of another, and in name whereof we owe
services, or pay rent, or both, to a superior lord. And all
our land in England, the crown-land, which is in the king's
own hands, in right of his crown, excepted, is in the nature
of *feudum*: for though a man have land by descent from his
ancestors, or bought it for his money; yet is the land of such
a nature, that it cannot come to any, either by descent or
purchase, but with the burthen that was laid upon him who
had novel fee, or first of all received it as a benefit from his
lord, to him and to all such to whom it might descend, or be

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- be any way conveyed from him. So that no man in England
has *directum dominium*, that is, the very property or demesne
in any land, but the prince in right of his crown: for though
he that has fee has *jus perpetuum & utile dominium*, yet he
owes a duty for it, and therefore it is not simply his own.
Fee is divided into two sorts; fee-absolute, otherwise called
fee-simple, and fee-conditional, otherwise termed fee-tail:
fee-simple is that whereof we are seized in those general words,
To us and our heirs for ever: fee-tail is that whereof we are
seized to us and our heirs, with limitation; that is, the heirs
of our body, &c. And fee-tail is either general or special:
general is where land is given to a man, and the heirs of his
body: fee-tail special is that where a man and his wife are
seized of land to them and the heirs of their two bodies. *Cowel.*
Now like a lawyer, when he land would let,
Or fell fee-simples in his master's name. *Hubbard's Tale.*
Here's the lord of the soil come to seize me for a stray, for
entering his fee-simple without leave. *Shaksp.peare's Henry VI.*
2. Property; peculiar.
What concern they?
The general cause; or is it a fee-grief, *Shaksp.peare's Macbeth.*
Due to some single breast?
3. Reward; gratification; recompense.
These be the ways by which, without reward,
Livings in courts be gotten, though full hard;
For nothing there is done without a fee. *Hubbard's Tale.*
Not helping, death's my fee;
But if I help, what do you promise me? *Shaksp.peare.*
4. Payments occasionally claimed by persons in office.
Now that God and friends
Have turn'd my captive state to liberty,
At our enlargement what are thy due fees? *Shak. Hen. VI.*
5. Reward paid to physicians or lawyers.
He does not reject the person's pretensions, who does not
know how to explain them; or refuse doing a good office for
a man, because he cannot pay the fee of it. *Addison's Spectat.*
6. Portion; pittance; share. Obsolete.
In pruning and trimming all manner of trees,
Reserve to each cattle their property fees. *Tull's Husbandry.*
FEARM. *n. f.* [*fee* and *farm*.] Tenure by which lands are
held from a superior lord.
John surrendered his kingdoms to the pope, and took them
back again, to hold in *feefarm*; which brought him into such
hatred, as all his lifetime after he was possess'd with fear. *Davies.*
To FEE. *v. a.* [from the noun.]
1. To reward; to pay.
No man fees the sun, no man purchases the light, nor errs
if he walks by it. *South's Sermons.*
Watch the disease in time; for when within
The dropsy rages and extends the skin,
In vain for hellebore the patient cries,
And fees the doctor; but too late is wise. *Dryden's Persf.*
2. To bribe.
I have long loved her, and ingrossed opportunities to meet
her; feed every slight occasion, that could but niggardly give
me sight of her. *Shaksp. Merry Wives of Windsor.*
3. To keep in hire.
There's not a thane of them but in his house
I have a servant *fee'd*. *Shaksp.peare's Macbeth.*
FEEBLE. *adj.* [*foible*, French.] Weak; debilitated; sickly;
infirm; without strength of body or mind.
The men carried all the *feeble* upon asses to Jericho. *2 Chron.*
Command th' assistance of a faithful friend,
But *feeble* are the succours I can send. *Dryden's Æn.*
How I have lov'd, excuse my faltering tongue;
My spirits *feeble*, and my pains are strong. *Dryden.*
We carry the image of God in us, a rational and immor-
tal soul; and though we be now miserable and *feeble*, yet we
aspire after eternal happiness, and finally expect a great exal-
tation of all our natural powers. *Bentley's Sermons.*
A crutch that helps the weak along,
Supports the *feeble*, but retards the strong. *Smith.*
To FEEBLE. *v. a.* [from the noun.] To weaken; to en-
feeble; to deprive of strength or power. Not in use.
Or as a cattle reared high and round,
By subtle engines and malicious flight
Is undermined from the lowest ground,
And her foundation forc'd and *feeble* quite. *Fairy Queen.*
Shall that victorious hand be *feeble* here?
That in your chambers gave you chastisement? *Sh. K. John.*
FEEBLEMINDED. *adj.* [*feeble* and *mind*.] Weak of mind;
defective in resolution and constancy.
Warn them that are unruly, comfort the *feebleminded*, sup-
port the weak, be patient toward all men. *1 Thess. v. 14.*
FEEBLENESS. *n. f.* [from *feeble*.] Weakness; imbecility; in-
firmity; want of strength.
A better head Rome's glorious body fits,
Than his that shakes for age and *feebleness*. *Shak. Tit And.*
Some in their latter years, through the *feebleness* of their
limbs, have been forced to study upon their knees. *South.*
FEEBLY. *adv.* [from *feeble*.] Weakly; without strength.

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- Like mine, thy gentle numbers *feebly* creep;
Thy tragick muse gives smiles, thy comick sleep. *Dryden.*
To FEED. *v. a.* [*fedan*, Gothick; *peban*, *foeban*, Saxon.]
1. To supply with food.
Her heart and bowels through her back he drew,
And fed the hounds that help'd him to pursue. *Dryden.*
Boerhaave fed a sparrow with bread four days, in which
time it eat more than its own weight. *Arbutnot on Diet.*
2. To supply; to furnish.
A constant smoke arises from the warm springs that feed
the many baths with which this island is stocked. *Addison.*
The breadth of the bottom of the hopper must be half the
length of a barleycorn, and near as long as the rollers, that it
may not feed them too fast. *Mortimer's Husbandry.*
3. To graze; to consume by cattle.
Once in three years feed your mowing lands, if you can-
not get manure constantly to keep them in heart. *Mortimer.*
The froit will spoil the grafs; for which reason take care to
feed it close before Winter. *Mortimer's Husbandry.*
4. To nourish; to cherish.
How oft from pomp and state did I remove,
To feed despair, and cherish hopeless love? *Prior.*
5. To keep in hope or expectation.
Barbarossa learned the strength of the emperor, craftily
feeding him with the hope of liberty. *Kneller's Hist. of the Turks.*
6. To delight; to entertain; to keep from satiety.
The alteration of scenes, so it be without noise, feeds and
relieves the eye, before it be full of the same object. *Bacon.*
To FEED. *v. n.*
1. To take food. Chiefly applied to animals food.
To feed were best at home;
From thence the sawce to meat is ceremony;
Meeting were bare without it. *Shaksp.peare's Macbeth.*
2. To prey; to live by eating.
I am not covetous of gold;
Nor care I, who doth feed upon my cost. *Shaksp. Hen. V.*
You cry against the noble senate, who,
Under the gods, keep you in awe, which else
Would feed on one another. *Shaksp. Coriolanus.*
Galen speaketh of the curing of the scirrhus of the liver by
milk of a cow, that feedeth upon certain herbs. *Bacon.*
Some birds feed upon the berries of this vegetable. *Brown.*
He feeds on fruits, which, of their own accord,
The willing grounds and laden trees afford. *Dryden's Virg.*
The Brachmans were all of the same race, lived in fields
and woods, and fed only upon rice, milk, or herbs. *Temple.*
All feed on one vain patron, and enjoy
Th' extensive blessing of his luxury. *Pope's Essay on Man.*
3. To pasture; to place cattle to feed.
If a man shall cause a field to be eaten, and shall put in his
beast, and shall feed in another man's field, he shall make
restitution. *Ex. xxii. 5.*
4. To grow fat or plump.
FEED. *n. f.* [from the verb.]
1. Food; that which is eaten.
A fearful deer then looks most about when he comes to the
best feed, with a shivering kind of tremor through all her
principal parts. *Sidney, b. ii.*
An old worked ox eats as well as a young one: their feed
is much cheaper, because they eat no oats. *Mortimer's Husbandry.*
2. Pasture.
Besides his cote, his flocks and bounds of feed
Are now on sale. *Shaksp.peare's As you like it.*
FEEDER. *n. f.* [from *feed*.]
1. One that gives food.
The beast obeys his keeper, and looks up,
Not to his master's but his feeder's hand. *Denham.*
2. An exciter; an encourager.
When thou do'st hear I am as I have been,
Approach me, and thou shalt be as thou wast,
The tutor and the feeder of my riots. *Shaksp. Henry IV.*
3. One that eats.
With eager feeding, food doth choke the feeder. *Shaksp.*
We meet in Aristotle with one kind of thrush, called the
miffel-thrush, or feeder upon miffeltoe. *Brown's Vulgar Err.*
4. One that eats nicely; one that lives luxuriously.
But that our feasts
In every morsel have folly, and the feeders
Jest with it as a custom, I should blush
To see you so attired. *Shaksp.peare's Winter's Tale.*
But such fine feeders are no guests for me;
Riot agrees not with frugality;
Then, that unfashionable man am I,
With me they'd starve for want of ivory. *Dryden's Juven.*
To FEEL. *pret. felt*; part pass. felt. *v. n.* [*felan*, Saxon.]
1. To have perception of things by the touch.
The sense of feeling can give us a notion of extension,
shape, and all other ideas that enter at the eye, except co-
lours. *Addison's Spectator, N^o. 411.*
2. To search by feeling. See FEELER.
3. To have a quick sensibility of good or evil, right or wrong.
Man, who feels for all mankind. *Pope.*
4. To